

### Our State Taxes.

A great deal has been said about our high state taxes this year, and there has been an attempt to saddle the responsibility therefor onto the republican administration. Although this claim has been exploded again and again by facts and figures, yet the straightforward, impartial statement of Governor Rich before the state grange will give added emphasis to the real facts, and we here reproduce a portion of his statement as to the state finances and the condition of the treasury as follows:

"The main excess of taxes this year over what they have been in legislative years in the past arises from the fact that sufficient taxes have not been levied in the past to pay the expenses of running the state government.

"I will go over very briefly the condition of the state finances for the past eight years. One of the most prolific causes of the increased expense is the care of the insane. The cost of keeping prisoners has increased with increased numbers and the inability to find remunerative employment. The building of the upper peninsula hospital for the insane at Newberry and of the Michigan home for feeble minded and epileptic at LaPeer, and the increased appropriations for the university, normal school and mining school have also contributed to the result. But when the needs of all the people are taken into consideration, I cannot see that there is any thing wrong in these appropriations, and but for the added burden to the already heavily loaded taxpayer, they have much to recommend them.

"When Governor Luce was inaugurated, January 1, 1887, there was a balance in the state treasury of \$440,292.83. His administration had to live one year and over on what his predecessor had provided, and the balance in the treasury at the close of his first year was \$94,060.46. The legislature of 1887 appropriated for 1887, \$1,950,085, and for 1888, \$1,458,466, a total for the two years of \$3,408,551. The amount paid for the care of the insane for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, and June 30, 1888, was \$527,940, and for state institutions, including insane, \$1,792,296.

"The appropriations made by the legislature of 1889 were \$3,085,205, or more than \$300,000 less than in 1887. The amount appropriated for the insane was \$786,939, and for all state institutions, \$2,346,693. The balance in the treasury December 31, 1890, the close of Governor Luce's second term, was \$603,515, and on December 31, 1891, the time when the administration of Governor Winans would commence to live on what it had provided, there was a balance of \$506,110, or in round numbers, \$100,000 less than one year previous. During this year there was received from the general government \$420,000, which went into the general fund. Taking this from balance on hand December 31, 1891, would leave a balance of \$86,110, showing substantially the same balance as four years before, in the middle of Governor Luce's first term. The balance on December 31, 1892, the end of Governor Winan's term was \$345,878, or \$257,637 less than at the close of Governor Luce's term. Besides this reduction in the balance, they had received \$420,000 from the general government, making up to that time a total reduction of \$677,637.

"The new administration had to live one year on what had been provided by its predecessor, and on December 31, 1893, there was a balance of minus \$128,300, and this after getting in about \$200,000 advanced by the Michigan Central and Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad companies, and about \$150,000 from Wayne county; and the overdraft mentioned was paid by the First National Bank of Detroit, making a deficit of nearly or quite \$500,000.

"The legislature of 1891 levied in the taxes for the two years only \$2,863,050, but they received from the general government \$420,000, and made appropriations amounting to \$264,000 to which there was no taxing clause attached, amounting in all to \$3,547,258. Among the items for which an insufficient tax was

raised, was the care of the insane. The estimate for 1891-92 was \$650,000, but the cost was \$882,523 or \$232,523 more than the estimate. This act seems stranger when it is called to mind that the cost for the previous two years was \$786,939, or \$136,939 more than the estimates. The foregoing figures are not exactly correct, as the fiscal year ends June 30, but the comparisons are all on the same bases.

"The legislature of 1893 levied in taxes, for 1893, \$1,931,214 and for 1894, \$1,689,135, a total for the two years of \$3,620,349; and it made appropriations amounting to \$172,000 in which no taxing clause was incorporated. It is proper to say that this legislature was unaware of the condition of the treasury, or it is reasonable to presume the matter would have been remedied.

"The balance December 31, 1894, was a minus of \$66,894 and \$300,000 had been borrowed to bridge over until the taxes could be collected. The legislature of 1895 appropriated for 1895, \$2,733,919 or thereabouts, and for 1896 about \$1,800,000. The tax levy for 1895 was \$3,013,919 and for 1896 it is estimated it will be about \$2,083,800.

"The balance at the close of business December 9, 1895, was \$31,644.49, but there had been borrowed \$900,000, and \$50,000 advanced by Wayne county. There are taxes due from various counties and from insurance companies and charter railroad companies, which will enable the bills to be met until the money from the present tax levy can be realized. There will, therefore, be \$563,800 to apply on the deficiency. Then the expenses of the legislature amounting to \$123,929 have been paid, and \$50,000 for strike expenses.

"The census, amounting to, probably, \$75,000 has been paid. There will be some interest to pay on loans, and some received for deposits, but which will not materially change the result. There is also being considerable expended in the collection of accounts against counties which have been delinquent in payment of taxes, but there will be from \$200,000 to \$250,000 collected which would otherwise not have been paid to the state. "In view of the increased expense it is possible there will be a small deficiency at the close of the year 1896, but every effort is being made to collect past due taxes and to keep down expenses.

"This in brief is the present condition of the treasury, and the cause of the present high taxes. It is to be sincerely regretted that this high tax comes when people feel so ill able to pay, but the appropriations are no more than the necessities of the state and its varied interests and institutions require, and the honor of the state and of its people demands that the unauthorized debt be canceled at the earliest possible moment."

### Democratic Nominees.

The democrats are even now arguing for the nomination of a New York man for the presidency because it is a "pivotal state." This position has been occupied by the Empire state for many years, and since the war the democrats have recognized that fact every year in their nominations for the presidency. Not since 1861 have the democrats named as their presidential candidate a southern or western man, and yet only twice in the eight presidential elections held has the choice of an eastern candidate availed the party. During the same period, the republicans have nominated an eastern man but once, and that was one of the times they went down in defeat. The locality from which the candidates on either ticket may come in 1896 will cut very little figure with the result. The persistency with which the democrats have nominated New York men for the presidency is surprising and leads naturally to a feeling that the nomination of Cleveland, Whitney or Hill this year is likely to leave the precedent unbroken. Following is a list of democratic nominees since '61:

1864—General George B. McClellan of New Jersey.  
1868—Horatio Seymour of New York.  
1872—Horace Greeley of New York.  
1876—Samuel J. Tilden of New York.  
1880—General Winfield Scott Hancock of New York.  
1884—Grover Cleveland of New York.  
1888—Grover Cleveland of New York.  
1892—Grover Cleveland of New York.

LILIAN BELL, the talented young lady contributor who wrote in a recent number of the Ladies' Home Journal, telling why men under thirty-five are distasteful to her, takes advantage of the newspaper publicity given to her by that article and in the current number of the same magazine writes on "Men as Lovers." According to Miss Bell's version, men are most dismal failures in the tender role. If Miss Bell and others do not like the love-making of men, they should by all means confine their affairs of the heart to their own sex; or, if that will not do, accept the affections of their dogs and canary birds and be content. As for men, however, they are very well satisfied, as a rule, with women as they are as objects upon which to lavish their affections.

THE seating of the two new senators from Utah gives that body 89 members, of which number it takes 45 to constitute a majority. There are 44 republicans, 39 democrats and 6 populists. Should Dupont be seated from Delaware, there will be the full complement of 90 senators, of which number 46 will be necessary to constitute a majority. There would be 45 republicans, 39 democrats and 6 populists, with a democratic vice president to cast the deciding vote in case of a tie. The republicans will be able to accomplish but little in the senate.

### Let Louisiana Celebrate.

It has been suggested by the chamber of commerce of New Orleans that the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Louisiana into the Union be celebrated on Dec. 20, 1903, by a great international exposition of the products of the world's progress. Such a celebration would practically include Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and parts of Utah and Colorado, as these states were included with the purchase of the Louisiana of today when the French flag was lowered in 1803. The idea is a good one, because it cannot fail to convince our southern friends of the great advance that the country has made, both in its agricultural and industrial resources, during the undisturbed period of protection that ended in 1893, a policy that, let us all hope, will again be in operation in 1903.

### Pearl Buttons and Revenue.

In 1893 we imported 13,057,642 lines of pearl buttons. In 1895 we imported 18,537,049 lines. Americans, under the Gorman tariff, were deprived of the work that could have been utilized in making 5,500,000 lines of pearl buttons. The amount of duty collected on foreign pearl buttons in 1893 was \$395,245. In 1895 it was \$241,193. By the Gorman law the American government lost \$150,000 of revenue, while American labor lost the work of making 5,500,000 lines of buttons. Who derived any benefit from this species of "tariff reform?" Not our government, not our workers, but foreign manufacturers and foreign labor.

### Proved by Results.

I have no hesitation in declaring that a tariff for revenue only—that is, a tariff law under whose provisions the largest amount of revenue can be raised in the easiest manner for the government—would be more disastrous to our people than free trade, for, while it would leave open and free competition to all countries in everything we raise or manufacture, it would increase the cost of those we cannot and yet must have, the factor of competition being left out.—Senator Frye.

### Cattle and Free Trade.

In June, 1895, English farmers carried 4,600,000 head of cattle. Three years before the same farmers owned 5,000,000 head. Thus a decline of 10 per cent is shown in 36 months. In 1895 there were about 300,000 sheep in Great Britain. The falling off in English flocks during the last few years has been very marked.—Report of Secretary of Agriculture.

### What John Bull Wants.

The reason why John Bull is so anxious for us to have sound money is because under tariff reform he is selling us so much more of his goods that he is interested in the nature of the payment of our debts. The Tariff Reform club works hard to carry out John Bull's ideas.

### Needs a Nurse.

There are perhaps few men in the country who have clearer conceptions on theoretic finance than Mr. Carlisle, but in practical finance he must be ranked among the babes and sucklings.—Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin.

### Good Old Times Again.

It will soon begin to look like the good old days of protection when a tariff for deficiency only was an unknown quantity. Then there was revenue enough and some to spare for paying off the national debt.

### Free Trade Facts.

The exports of 1895 in domestic merchandise were \$75,812,338 less than in 1894, and the imports were \$76,975,843 greater in 1895 than in 1894.—Report of Secretary of the Treasury.

### Practice What You Preach.

Nearly every appropriation is in terms or by necessary implication a direction to the executive authorities to expend the money.—Secretary Carlisle's Report.  
Pay the sugar bounty then.

**Obituary.**  
Mrs. Mary Gray died at her home in Arlington, Friday evening, January 24, 1896, of the grip and heart trouble. Mrs. Gray was born in Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, August 22, 1841. She came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Reed, to Waverly when two years of age, and has lived in this county until her death. In 1857, she was united in marriage to Peter Carr. Mr. Carr enlisted in the war and was one of the missing. To this union were born two sons, Johnnie, dying when four years of age, and William, now living in Barnesville, Minnesota. In 1872 she was married to Joseph W. Gray. To this union were born one son and one daughter.

The funeral was held at the Hogmire schoolhouse on Sunday, Rev. J. R. Armstrong officiating, and the remains were interred in Waverly. Deceased was a lady admired by all who knew her, having many estimable traits of character, and will be sadly missed by all. Previous to her last marriage, she joined the Free Methodist church. She was a kind and loving mother. She leaves one sister, Mrs. G. W. Clement, now living in Kansas, who was unable to attend the funeral.

### Card of Thanks.

We express our sincere thanks to our kind friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted us in our bereavement.  
J. W. GRAY AND FAMILY.  
MR. AND MRS. L. J. LEWIS.  
MR. AND MRS. LEROY WEST.  
MR. AND MRS. W. L. GRAY.  
MR. AND MRS. G. W. CLEMENT.  
MR. AND MRS. W. F. CARR.

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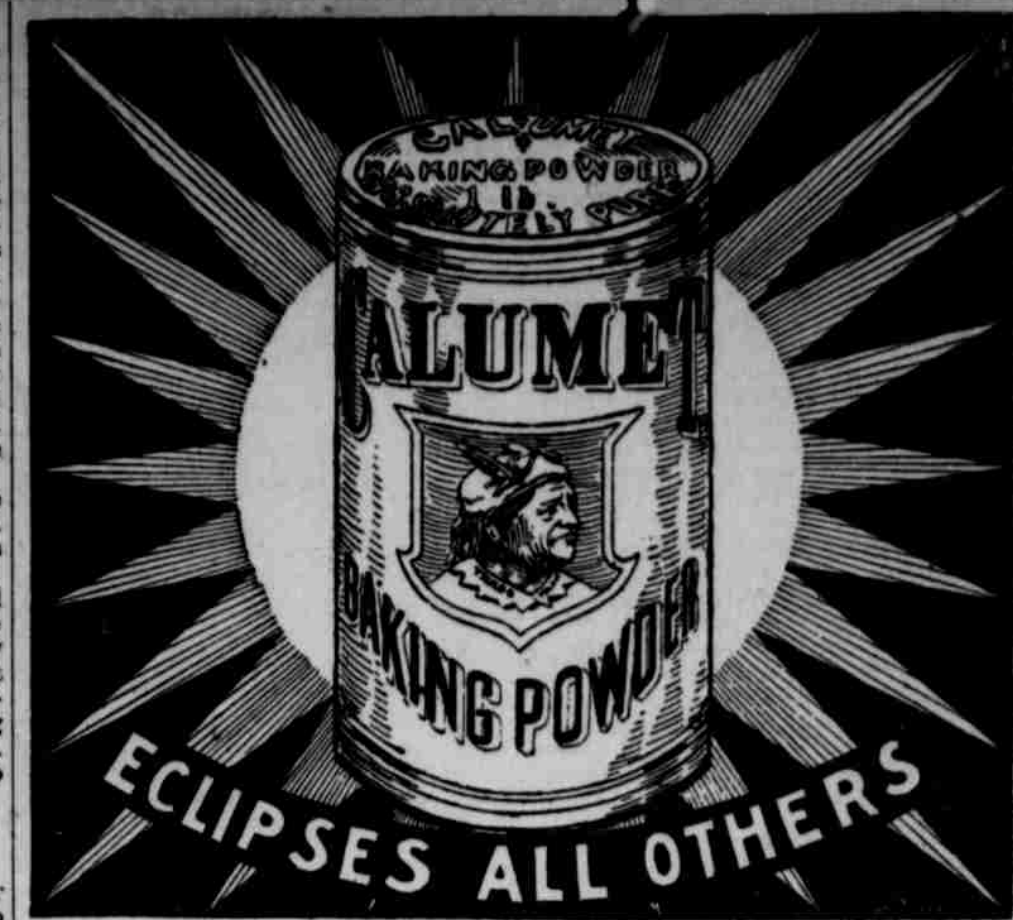
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